

Message Text

SECRET

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53

ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2203

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

S E C R E T KHARTOUM 2153

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PGOV, PINS, SU

SUBJECT: ALEXANDRIA AND JIDDA COMMUNIQUE FORECAST GREATER
SYSTEMATIC TRIPARTITE MILITARY COLLABORATION

REF: KHARTOUM 2146

1. WHILE HE HAS NOT YET SEEN FULL TEXT OF EGYPT/SUDAN JOINT
DEFENSE PACT (REFTEL), FONOFF U/SEC MIRGHANI TOLD ME JULY 20
HE WAS CERTAIN INSTITUTIONALIZED COLLABORATION BETWEEN EGYPTIAN
AND SUDANESE MILITARY STAFFS WOULD BE ONE RESULT OF NEW
AGREEMENT. HE SAID HE THOUGHT NEW PACT WOULD IN
DUE COURSE BE PUBLISHED IN ORDER ALLAY ANY SUDANESE SUSPICION
RE EGYPTIAN INTENTIONS HERE.

2. AS TO TRIPARTITE ARRANGEMENTS REACHED IN JIDDA, MIRGHANI
SAID HE COULD NOT BE AS CERTAIN BUT HE THOUGHT IT QUITE LIKELY
THAT TRIPARTITE JOINT MILITARY STAFF COOPERATION MIGHT ALSO
HAVE BEEN AGREED UPON. MIRGHANI THEN NOTED PRESENCE DURING
ALEXANDRIA TALKS OF SAUDI OFFICIAL KAMAL ADHAM
LEAVING IMPRESSION THAT TRIPARTITE COLLABORATION IN NATIONAL
SECURITY FIELD MIGHT ALSO BE INTENSIFIED. MIRGHANI COMMENTED
THAT, WHEREAS LIBYAN SUPPORT FOR ABORTIVE COUP HAD NO DOUBT
STEMMED FROM QADDAFI'S DISAPPOINTMENT AT NIMEIRI'S
UNWILLINGNESS ACCEPT QADDAFI'S IDEAS ON ARAB UNITY, FAILURE

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OF REBELS WOULD HAVE TWO-FOLD IMPACT ON LIBYA: (A) BOTH EGYPT

AND SUDAN NOW MORE ALERT THAN IN PAT TO LIBYAN
MACHINATIONS, AND (B) FORCES OF ARAB UNITY WERE NOW
REPRESENTED BY GEYPT-SAUDI ARABIA-SUDAN WITH QADDAFI
ISOLATED AS ODD MAN OUT. IN THIS CONNECTION MIRGHANI
COMMENTED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED "CERTAIN INFORMATION" FROM
LIBYA INDICATING THAT PUBLIC OPINION THERE WAS QUESTIONING WHY,
OF ALL ARAB COUNTRIES, QADDAFI SHOULD HAVE PICKED ON FRIENDLY
SUDAN. OBVIOUS ANSWER, MIRGHANI NOTED, WAS THAT QADDAFI HOPED TO
UNDERMINE EGYPTIAN POSITION THROUGH SUDAN.

3. COMMENT: SUDAN HAS LONG HAD LOVE/HATE
RELATIONSHIP WITH EGYPTIANS BUT RECENT BLOODY KHARTOUM EVENTS
HAVE NO DOUBT CONVINCED MANY OF THE NEED FOR CLOSER CAIRO/
KHARTOUM TIES. UNNECESSARY KILLINGS CAUSED BY ANSAR
REBELS HAVE ALREADY PROMPTED BITTER ATTACKS IN LOCAL
PRESS FROM FORMER ANSAR SUPPORTERS HERE. KILLINGS
REPORTELY HAVING THE EFFECT OF DRAWING ARMY AND POPULACE AT LARGE
CLOSER TOGETHER IN OPPOSITION TO SUCH TERRORIST-TYPE
TACTICS. BREWER

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NNN

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